

Elite Performance Student Policy

Sevenoaks is lucky to have a number of exceptionally talented boys and girls in different areas, such as sport and music. The general principle is that such pupils should participate fully in all areas of the school: pastoral, academic and co-curricular. However, we also recognise that elite performance requires great dedication and we want to assist these pupils in fulfilling their potential. Therefore in exceptional circumstances we will agree to special arrangements with certain students and their parents. These arrangements will be confirmed in writing and will be reviewed annually, depending on:

1. satisfactory academic results;
2. progress in the particular area of elite performance;
3. continued commitment to the school.

How we define elite performance?

Each case will be looked at on individual merits, but as a general rule elite performance means national (not regional) representation. Examples where special arrangements might be made include:

- Top national tennis rankings and ratings with aspiration to play in national qualifiers
- National hockey team
- National Youth Orchestra
- Membership of a specialist music programme, e.g. JRCM

Examples where special arrangements would be refused:

- County tennis team
- Local youth orchestra

What are the special arrangements that can be made?

Our aim is to provide the best solution for the student concerned and the school.

The school requires students to represent the school in their area of particular excellence. A tennis player for example must represent the school tennis team and a musician must play in the relevant ensembles. They cannot substitute external activities for school representation.

In general the further a student moves through the school the more undesirable it will be to let the student miss too much school. The demands of (I)GCSE and especially the IB, can make it very difficult for a student to balance their academic work and the demands of their particular area of elite performance.